

***REMARKS/ARGUMENTS***

Applicants' attorney gratefully acknowledges the consideration and assistance of the Examiner during the September 16, 2005, interview. All of the claims have been addressed in light of the discussion during the interview. For example, the pending independent claims have been cancelled and new independent claims 38-42 have been added.

Although the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete and indefinite are respectfully traversed, it is respectfully contended that new independent claims 38-42 are even more complete and definite than the earlier independent claims.

Further, each of new independent claims 38-42 are novel and patentable over EP 0 095 850 (Reference '850). Claims 38, 39, 41, and 42 each define filtration systems in which a second flowpath has a lower volume than a first flowpath. Claim 40 defines a filtration system in which fluid is circulated in a first state through a plurality of filters and in a second state through at least one but not all of the filters. Nothing in Reference '850 discloses or suggests these aspects of the independent claims. Consequently, it is respectfully contended that all of the claims are novel and patentable.

Respectfully submitted,



---

John M. Belz, Reg. No. 30,359  
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER  
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20005-3960  
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)  
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date: 5 April 2006